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a teetotaler, and agitated the subject of temperance whenever opportunity offered. He took up the work of "ragged schools," in which both the bodies and souls of the poor were cared for. And when his voice failed him, he still continued to use his pen, and became the popular and successful editor of the *Sunday Magazine*. His life is full of valuable lessons for the preacher, pastor, and sociologist. And this small volume, which the busiest can read, attractively presents the whole career of Dr. Guthrie, who was in the highest and best sense truly great.—Galusha Anderson.

A Short History of the Free Churches. By Rev. J. A. Houlder. (London: R. D. Dickinson, 1899; pp. xiii + 240; 2s. 6d.) This little volume covers the history of the growth of religious freedom from 1366 to our own times, or 1898. The sketch is brief but painstaking, and it will prove useful to all who wish to acquaint themselves with the leading facts of free-church history.—J. W. Moncrief.

Die heilige Taufe und der Taufschatz in deutschem Glauben und Recht, in der Sitte des Volks und der Kirche, in deutscher Sage und Dichtung. Von Dr. A. Freybe. (Gütersloh: C. Bertelsmann, 1900; pp. xii + 302; M. 4.20.) The task the author of this book has set for himself is a difficult one because of its vastness; he endeavors to show the position Christian baptism has held in the religious faith, laws, customs, liturgy, sagas, and literature of the German people from the time of their acceptance of Christianity to the present day. Notwithstanding the vastness of the subject, he has succeeded in writing a very interesting book. Objection might be made to his treatment of baptism in the apostolic churches, in that he here falls into the all too common blunder of reading the sacramental ideas of the second and subsequent centuries into the time of Jesus and his disciples. This he does in the opening chapter of the book, and once again this conception of the meaning of Christian baptism appears in chap. x, where he deems it necessary to make an application to present-day tendencies. In its historical references the book is a veritable treasure-house of facts carefully gathered and admirably grouped. He gives us the references to Christian baptism in German poetry from the Heliand to the Reformation, including the folk-songs and the saga of the golden cradle. He shows how the penalty for the refusal to submit to baptism came to be incorporated with civil law, and how the German people came to believe in the absolute necessity of baptism for their

infants. The book is rich in its description of baptismal ceremonies and feasts; it touches upon the different modes of baptism and the changes that were made necessary by the gradual disappearance of immersion. A most interesting chapter of the book is the one in which the author treats of the hymns German Protestant Christianity has produced on the subject of baptism — interesting on account of the very large number of such hymns and the sacramental views which they express.—Die Dormitio und das deutsche Grundstück auf dem traditionellen Zion. Von Dr. theol. Carl Mommert. (Leipzig: E. Haberland, 1899; pp. 132; M. 3.) This book gives a detailed description of the plot of ground which the German emperor, in the fall of 1898, during his brief visit to the Holy Land, presented to the "Deutscher Verein im heiligen Lande," as representing the German Catholics of the German empire. The land in question is irregular in its boundaries; lying just south of the house of Caiaphas and the old American cemetery, east of the Greek cemetery, and north of the well-known Moslem monastery in which, among other things, the grave of David is shown. Because of its proximity to the latter place, this land would probably never have come into possession of Christians, had it not been for this fortuitous visit of the German emperor. Its present name, Dormitio, is derived from the tradition, according to which the house of Mary, the mother of Jesus, stood at this place, and in which she is also said to have died. Dr. Mommert's book begins with a short history of the gift, notes some of the correspondence that has passed between the German emperor and the high dignitaries of the Roman church in reference to it, and has an account of the imposing public exercises which took place on the day the German emperor took possession of the property. The main part of the book is, however, devoted to a very full and learned discussion of the intricate question as to whether Mary died at Ephesus or Jerusalem. The author decides for the latter place, although he does not maintain that the house in which Mary died stood on the spot which now has become the property of the German Catholics. There is a vast amount of tradition and some historical material on the subject, and all this the author examines with commendable patience. He also shows an intimate acquaintance with the topography of the present city, and has a firm grasp on the literature of the many holy places in this city of traditions.—ALBERT J. RAMAKER.

Recollections of a Missionary in the Great West. By Cyrus Townsend Brady. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1900; pp. 200; \$1.25.)